

KINGSWOOD
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1937.

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MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL, 1937.

Chairman—

Mr. T. BURNHAM, J.P., C.C.

Vice-Chairman—

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Mr. A. S. CORDY
Mr. G. WILLMOTT
Mr. S. R. WILLMOTT

Public Health Staff—

<i>Medical Officer of Health (pro tem)</i>	Dr. PATRICK THOMSON MACDONALD, M.A., M.B., Ch.B. (Appointed 23rd September, 1936).
<i>Sanitary Inspector, Housing Officer, Shops Act Inspector and Petroleum Officer</i>	GEORGE EWART CURTIS, M.S.I.A., Cert. R.San.I., Cert. Meat Inspector. (Appointed 18th September, 1933).
<i>Assistant Sanitary Inspector</i> ...	DEREK B. HOOPER, A.S.I.A.
<i>Sanitary Inspector's Clerk</i> ...	Miss S. E. BRITTON

ANNUAL REPORT

*Of the Medical Officer of Health for
Kingswood Urban Area for the Year 1937.*

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Kingswood Urban District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the pleasure and honour to submit the Annual Report on the work of the Public Health Services for the year 1937, being the forty-third Report presented since the formation of the Urban District in 1894. As in past years the Report is drawn up in accordance with the requirements (Circular 1650 (England)) of the Ministry of Health, and statistics are calculated from returns made by the Registrar-General.

The latest estimated population of the District according to the Registrar-General is 15,270 (mid-1937), an increase of 400 over the figure for 1936, and a total estimated increase of nearly 2,000 since the Census of 1931 when the population was 13,286.

I.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

(a) General Statistics.

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	1,530
Population (Registrar General's estimate mid-1937)	...	...	...	...	15,270
Elevation above sea level (Hopewell Hill)					373 ft.
Number of inhabited houses, December, 1937 (Rate Books)	...	...	...	...	4,457
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	£64,362
Sum represented by a penny rate				...	£236

(b) **Social Conditions.**

There has been no important change in the industries carried out in the Area. The following tabulated statement indicates the nature of the trades carried out.

<i>Trade.</i>	<i>Number</i>
Boot and Shoe Making	34
Bakeries	12
Motor Repairing	6
Tanneries (one closed)	4
Engineering Factories	3
Brick making	2
Foundries	2
Saw Mills and Joinery	2
Biscuit making	1
Brush making	1
Corset Factory	1
Soap Factory	1
Firework Factory	1
Wheelwright	1
Electrical Equipment	1
Coach Building	1

Throughout the year Unemployment was slightly less than in 1936. Kingswood's principal industry—the Boot and Shoe Trade—was helped considerably by export trade carried on, and taking into account seasonal fluctuation in this particular Industry, the results can be regarded as satisfactory. Trade in other Industries also shewed improvement.

(c) **Extracts from Vital Statistics.**

Live Births—

	Total.	M.	F.	
Legitimate	259	137	122	{ Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population 17·3.
Illegitimate	5	3	2	
				Birth-rate for England and Wales—14·9.
Stillbirths ...	16	7	9	{ Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births —57·0.
Deaths ...	158	72	86	
				Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated population—10·3.
				Death Rate for England and Wales—12·4.

Deaths from Puerperal causes	...	...	...	nil
Deaths of Infants (under 1 year)	...	...	...	14
Death-rate of Infants under 1 years of age—				
All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	53.0
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	53.0
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	20
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age)...	...	...	...	nil

The 264 registered births show a decrease of 3 when compared with 1936, while the infantile mortality rate fell from 54.5 to 53.0. This rate of infantile deaths compares favourably with the rate of 58.0 for England and Wales.

The aggregate number of deaths rose by 1 to 158, but it is interesting to record that actually there were 19 *less* male deaths and 20 *more* female deaths than in the previous year.

(d) Classification of Deaths.

Cardiac Diseases. Forty deaths occurred viz. : 17 males and 23 females, showing a decrease of 12 compared with the figure for 1936. Of this total 24 deaths occurred over the age of 65.

Cardiac Death Rate per 1,000 population—2.6.

Cancer.—20 deaths—11 male and 9 female were recorded during the year. The principal localisations of disease were as follow :—

Bowel and Rectum	...	...	6
Liver	...	...	5
Thoracic	...	...	2
Uterus	...	...	2
Oesophagus	...	...	1
Other Organs	...	...	4

Cancer death rate per 1,000 population — 1.3.

Tuberculosis.—Fifteen deaths were recorded from tuberculosis—12 respiratory and 3 non-respiratory. This is a sharp increase over the 1936 total. A full tabulation in age groups, etc., is given under the heading “Tuberculosis” later in this report. The death rate from this disease was 0.9.

Infantile Mortality.—Fifteen deaths occurred of infants under one year, a decrease of one compared with 1936. The mortality rates for the past ten years are :—

1928	...	88.3	1933	...	37.2
1929	...	41.2	1934	...	54.3
1930	...	91.3	1935	...	57.9
1931	...	88.0	1936	...	54.5
1932	...	89.2	1937	...	53.0

The following table shows the classification of Infantile Deaths :

<i>Cause of death.</i>	Under 1 wk.	1-4 wks.	4-13 wks.	13-26 wks.	26-39 wks.	39-52 wks.	Total
Marasmus ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Pneumonia ...	...	1	1	1	1	1	5
Premature Birth ...	2	1	...	...	...	...	3
Convulsions ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Erysipelas ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
T.B. Otitis Media ...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Spina Bifida ...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Injury at Birth ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
TOTALS ...	4	3	2	2	1	2	14

The following Table shows the classification of Deaths under 36 principal causes, arranged in age groups.

Cause of Death	Under 1 yr.	1—5 yrs.	5—15 yrs.	15—25 yrs.	25—45 yrs.	45—65 yrs.	65 and upw'ds	Total
Typhoid and Paratyphoid								
Fevers
Measles
Scarlet Fever...	1	1	...	...	...	...	2
Whooping Cough
Diphtheria	1	...	...	...	...	1
Influenza	1	4	2	7
Encephalitis Lethargica
Cerebro-Spinal Fever
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	4	6	2	...	12
Other Tuberculous Diseases	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	3
Syphilis
General Paralysis, Tabes Dorsalis
Cancer, Malignant Disease	6	3	11	20
Diabetes	1	...	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage	4	4
Heart Disease	5	11	24	40
Aneurism
Other circulatory diseases	6	8	14
Bronchitis	1	...	2	3	6
Pneumonia (all forms)	3	3	...	...	...	...	1	7
Other respiratory diseases	1	1
Peptic Ulcer
Diarrhoea
Appendicitis	1	...	1
Cirrhosis of Liver
Other diseases of Liver, etc.
Other digestive diseases	1	2	3
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	2	4	6
Puerperal Sepsis
Other Puerperal causes
Congenital Debility, Prema- ture Birth, Malformations. etc.	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Senility	2	2
Suicide
Other Violence	2	2	...	2	...	1	7
Other defined diseases	1	2	1	1	3	3	3	14
Smallpox
Poliomyelitis
Polio-Encephalitis
TOTALS	12	9	5	6	23	37	66	158

II.—GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

(a) **Public Health Staff.**

No change in the personnel of the Public Health Staff occurred during the year. A scheme for the appointment of a whole time Medical Officer of Health to serve the combined areas of Kingswood, Mangotsfield, Warmley and Sodbury, was agreed to by the Authorities concerned and the South Gloucestershire Joint (M.O.H.) Committee was formed in November, 1937. This Committee was instituted under the Local Government Act 1933 and will control all future appointments to the office of Medical Officer of Health.

(b) **Laboratory Facilities.**

There has been no change in the arrangements for examination of swabs, sputa, etc., carried out by the Department of Preventive Medicine, Bristol University. The Agricultural Advisory Department at the University carries out the bacteriological examination of milk samples and details will be found in the report of the Sanitary Inspector.

(c) **Ambulance Facilities.**

The Bristol St. John Ambulances and City and Marine Corps continue to serve this District for ambulance facilities, and the service afforded is quite adequate for the needs of the area. For infectious cases Mangotsfield Hospital Ambulance is used.

(d) **Nursing in the Home.** The Kingswood and District Nursing Association continues to carry out its good work throughout the District. A slight decrease in the total number of visits made during the year as compared with 1936 is mainly accounted for by the fact that owing to the operation of the Midwives Act 1936, all Midwifery cases, including ante-natal and post-natal visits, are now confined to patients living in the County of Gloucester. The work of the Association entails continual expense and the Committee, in expressing their gratitude to all subscribers, trust they will do their utmost to support the work by continuing their interest and if possible obtaining new subscribers.

Three Queen's Nurse Midwives came to the Home for a Post Graduate Midwifery Course and Two Queen's Nurses entered for the Central Midwives' Board Examination and passed. Ten Nurses came from the Maternity Hospital, Bristol, for Extern Training and three Nurses went to the Maternity Hospital, Bristol, for Intern Training.

The following table gives an indication of the work carried out :

New nursing cases attended	...	668
Total number of visits	... ..	22,953

<i>Description.</i>	<i>Cases.</i>	<i>Visits</i>
Midwifery cases	178	3,757
Maternity cases	62	1,395
Medical cases	254	12,916
Surgical cases	174	3,817
Infant Welfare Centre Visits ... ..	...	48
Casual Visits ... ..	...	158
Ante-Natal (home) visits ... ..	...	711
Post Natal visits ... ..	...	2
Ante-Natal (clinic) visits ... ..	...	97
Out-Station visits ... ..	...	30
Tuberculosis (clinic) visits ... ..	...	6
Eye Hospital Out-patients ... ..	...	13
V.D. Clinic visits ... ..	...	3

(e) **Clinics and Treatment Centres.**

The Out-station at Hopewell Hill, Kingswood, which is maintained by the Gloucestershire County Council is available for treatment of Kingswood residents. The Clinic Service includes a Tuberculosis Dispensary where patients are seen at the request of Local Practitioners. It is also used for treatment of eye defects, ear, nose and throat defects, minor ailments, dental defects and orthopaedic treatment. There is also an ante-natal clinic supervised by the County Council. Specialists in the treatment of various conditions attend at regular intervals. A weekly clinic for school children is served by a rota of Local Practitioners.

The Kingswood Child Welfare Centre is a voluntary organisation maintained by voluntary subscriptions and grants from Gloucestershire County Council, Kingswood and Mangotsfield Councils, etc.

The following extracts from the 22nd Annual Report of the Centre indicate the excellent work undertaken in the interest of infants and "toddlers" under school age.

The Committee have much pleasure in presenting their Twenty-second Annual Report in connection with the work of the Welfare Centre. The year has been a very busy one and the number of attendances has again increased.

The Medical Officer attends each week, and the mother is urged to attend regularly, so that a watch may be kept over her baby. If the child needs medical attention the mother is advised to consult her own doctor.

No. of attendances by Kingswood Mothers	...	...	3,241
„ „ Bristol	„	...	644
„ „ Kingswood Children under 1 year...			1,574
„ „ Kingswood Children over 1 year	...		2,139
„ „ Bristol Children under 1 year	...		277
„ „ Bristol Children over 1 year	...		446
Total Number of Children's attendances	...	...	4,436
Number of attendances in toddlers' room	...	...	1,261
„ Sessions	...	...	43
„ New babies	...	...	287
„ Weighings	...	...	1,441

(f) **Hospital Services.**

(1). *Infectious Diseases.* The Mangotsfield Isolation Hospital is available for treatment of cases of infectious disease requiring hospital treatment. This arrangement, which has prevailed for many years, is by agreement entered into with the Mangotsfield Joint Hospital Committee. A retaining fee of £140 per annum is paid and Kingswood may claim the use of six beds at any one time. In times of emergency, Kingswood cases are treated in institutions owned by the Corporations of Bristol and Bath, by arrangement with the respective Medical Officers of Health. During the year—mainly from September to December—56 cases were treated at Mangotsfield, one case subsequently being transferred to Ham Green Hospital (Bristol Corporation) for operation. In addition, one case of Puerperal Pyrexia and one case of Acute Poliomyelitis were treated at Ham Green Hospital, and one case of Scarlet Fever at the Bath City Isolation Hospital, Claverton Down, Bath. Total cost of institutional treatment at Mangotsfield was £906 0s. 0d. (including Retaining Fee).

The formation of a County Scheme for Institutional treatment of infectious diseases has been under consideration for some years, but no scheme acceptable to all concerned was formulated during the year. The need for a co-ordinating scheme is becoming increasingly apparent.

(2). *Small-pox.* The Small-pox Hospital at Chipping Sodbury is available for treatment of Kingswood patients, and a retaining fee of £15 per annum is paid. The Hospital was not used by Kingswood during the year.

(3). *Tuberculosis.* Institutional treatment for cases of Tuberculosis is available at Stonehouse Sanatorium, Over Hospital, Gloucester, and for surgical cases the Bristol Hospitals.

(4). *General Hospitals.* The following General Hospitals are used by the inhabitants of the Kingswood Urban District, viz. :—Bristol General Hospital, Bristol Royal Infirmary, Bristol Hospital

for Women and Children, Bristol Eye Hospital, Bristol Eye Dispensary, Orthopaedic Hospital (Bristol), Maternity Hospital (Bristol) and Cossham Hospital (Kingswood).

III.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

(a) Water Supply.

The West Gloucestershire Water Company has maintained an adequate and wholesome supply of water throughout the year. Of a total number of 28 bacteriological examinations, 25 showed B. Coli absent in 100 c.c. Three examinations showed B.Coli in 100 c.c., but immediate steps were taken to increase rate of chlorination and the Coli content disappeared.

The figures which the Secretary has kindly supplied show that the total rainfall during the year was 32.74, a very slight increase over that for 1936. Rain fell on 179 days, the wettest months of the year being January, February and July. During the month of July (15th) there was a terrific thunderstorm—the worst for over 30 years. Nearly one inch of rain fell in half an hour and in 12 hours over 3 inches of rain fell. August was the driest month with a rainfall of 1.13 inches, rain falling on only seven days.

298 connections were made to the public supply and extensions of water main totalled 1,296 yards.

Rainfall, 1937.

Rain gauge fixed at Hopewell Hill, Kingswood.

Diameter of funnel, 5 inches. Height to top above ground, 10 inches. Height above sea level 373 feet.

Month.	Total Depth in inches.	Average depth for 30 years	No. of days on which more than .01 fell
January	4.00	3.01	24
February	4.21	2.36	25
March	3.22	2.11	20
April	2.71	2.16	16
May	2.30	2.16	13
June	2.55	2.17	9
July	4.04	2.92	15
August	1.13	2.97	7
September	2.10	2.58	13
October	2.94	3.55	11
November	1.75	2.88	10
December	1.79	3.81	16
TOTALS	32.74	32.76	179

(b) **Drainage, Sewerage, Closet Accommodation, Public Cleansing, Sanitary Inspections, Smoke Abatement, &c.**

Details of work carried out by the Sanitary Inspector falling under these headings will be found in his report which is appended to mine.

IV.—HOUSING.

During the year a considerable amount of work was accomplished in dealing with unfit dwellings in Clearance Areas. Representations were made in March concerning ten areas involving 32 properties. Clearance Orders were made by the Council and an Official Inquiry was held in July, when evidence was given by your Medical Officer of Health and Sanitary Inspector. Subsequently, in October the Orders were confirmed.

With the completion of a small Estate at Mount Hill and the development of a larger Estate at Woodstock, a great step forward was made in providing re-housing accommodation for those families whose displacement from insanitary surroundings to decent well-equipped dwellings was overdue.

The report of the Sanitary Inspector contains full details of inspections made and action taken under the Housing Act during the year in regard to defective and insanitary dwellings and also the abatement of overcrowding.

V.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Details of work carried out by the Sanitary Inspector in connection with inspection and supervision of food will be found in his report.

VI.—PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

In striking contrast to 1936, the incidence of Infectious Diseases throughout the year reached the abnormally high figure of 130—more than double that of the previous year. Epidemics of Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever occurred during the Autumn and Winter months, and from the tables which are reproduced it will be seen that most cases occurred in the North, West and East Wards, Mount Hill and South Wards being comparatively free.

(a) **Diphtheria.**

Fifty-four cases were notified, and most of them occurred after School Summer recess. In all cases occurring in patients of school age, direct or indirect contact with High Street Schools was established. The County School Medical Officer carried out an

examination of all scholars in the three Departments and swabs were taken of all suspicious throat and nose conditions. Three "Carriers" were traced by this means and they were isolated and treated. In one of these cases home inquiries revealed the fact that a highly-suspicious throat illness had persisted in the family for some time and that no medical treatment had been sought.

Thirty-five cases were removed to Hospital and one patient—a boy of 7 years—died there.

(b) Scarlet Fever.

Sixty-two cases were notified—twenty-one of whom were removed to Hospital. Cases were mostly prevalent in North and West Wards and appeared to be due to spread of infection from adjacent Districts. Two deaths occurred—a girl age 7 treated at home and a boy age 2 who died at Mangotsfield Hospital.

(c) Acute Poliomyelitis.

One case occurred and the patient was removed to Ham Green Hospital for treatment.

(d) Erysipelas.

Eight cases notified, all of which were treated at home.

(e) Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia.

Two cases reported and no complications ensued. No death occurred from Puerperal causes.

(f) Pneumonia.

Two cases were notified during the year.

(g) Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

One case occurred and information was transmitted to County Health Department for action.

Table showing Incidence of Infectious Diseases in Age Groups, etc.

Disease	Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 up	Total cases	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total deaths
Smallpox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ...	...	1	2	4	5	35	9	3	2	1	...	...	62	21	2
Diphtheria ...	1	...	1	2	5	29	5	1	8	2	...	...	54	35	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Enteric Fever (including para-Typhoid)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...
Pneumonia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	1	...
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	3	1	8	...	...
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Poliomyelitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...
TOTAL ...	2	1	3	6	10	64	14	5	16	5	3	1	130	59	3

Table showing Incidence of Infectious Diseases in Wards.

Disease.	North	South	East	West	Mount Hill
Diphtheria	11	1	18	22	2
Scarlet Fever	29	6	8	18	1
Erysipelas	2	3	1	—	2
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia ... ..	...	...	...	2	...
Poliomyelitis	1	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia	1	...	1	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	1	...
TOTALS	44	10	28	43	5

VII.—TUBERCULOSIS.

Thirty new cases of Tuberculosis were reported during the year, viz.: 15 Respiratory and 15 Non-Respiratory. This represents a total increase of 12 over the figure for 1936. Fifteen deaths were recorded as compared with 8 for 1936.

The following table shows sex, age and occupation of new cases notified and deaths occurring.

NEW CASES.				DEATHS			
RESPIRATORY.		NON-RESPIRATORY.		RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY	
Male.	Female	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male	Female
33 yrs. Unemployed Boot op-r't'v	49 yrs. Home duties	54 yrs. Retired (<i>Meningitis</i>)	11 weeks Infant (<i>Otitis Media</i>)	33 yrs. Clicker	33 yrs. Home duties	54 yrs. Retired (<i>Meningitis</i>)	4 yrs. Infant (<i>Meningitis</i>)
40 yrs. Upholsterer	46 yrs. Home duties	41 yrs. Railway Worker (<i>Spinal caries</i>)	2 yrs. Infant (<i>Cervical glands</i>)	26 yrs. Nurseryman	49 yrs. Home duties		4 months Infant (<i>Otitis Media</i>).
22 yrs. Engineer	43 yrs. Home duties	57 yrs. Clerk <i>Epididymitis</i>	4½ yrs. Infant (<i>Meningitis</i>)	32 yrs. Clicker	25 yrs. Chocolate worker		
42 yrs. Engineer	36 yrs. Dressmaker	2 yrs. Infant (<i>Left Humerus</i>)	8 yrs. Scholar (<i>PerIPHERAL glands</i>)	21 yrs. Steam Laundry Assistant	20 yrs. Shop Assistant		
20 yrs. Wood Machinist	39 yrs. Boot Machinist	16 yrs. Florist		22 yrs. Shop Assistant	21 yrs. Secretary		
	32 yrs. Home duties	22 yrs. Unemployed (<i>Meningitis</i>)			31 yrs. Home duties		
	40 yrs. Home duties	3 yrs. Infant (<i>Mesenteric</i>)			47 yrs. Home duties		
	31 yrs. Home duties	4½ yrs. Infant (<i>PerIPHERAL glands</i>)					
	27 yrs. Cigarette Packer.	12 yrs. Scholar (<i>Mesenteric</i>)					
	32 yrs. Home duties	4½ yrs. Infant (<i>Glandular</i>)					
		16 yrs. Scholar (<i>Mesenteric</i>)					
(5)	(10)	(11)	(4)	(5)	(7)	(1)	(2)

Table shewing New Cases and Deaths in Age Groups.

	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year ...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2
1—5 years ...	...	...	4	2	...	...	...	...
5—15 „ ...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
15—25 „ ...	2	...	3	...	2	2	...	...
25—35 „ ...	1	4	...	...	3	3	...	...
35—45 „ ...	2	4	1	...	...	...	...	...
45—55 „ ...	...	2	1	...	...	2	1	...
55—65 „ ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
65 upwards ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	5	10	11	4	5	7	1	2

VIII.—CONCLUSION.

On the whole, the health of the District has remained fairly satisfactory, one adverse feature being the excessive incidence of infectious disease during the Autumn and Winter months, on which I have commented in the Report.

At the date when this Report was compiled (June, 1938), Dr. J. Menzies Cormack, D.P.H., the newly appointed full-time Medical Officer of Health to the South-West Gloucestershire Combined (M.O.H.) Districts had taken up his duties, and the writer relinquished his office as Medical Officer of Health to the Kingswood Council on the 30th April, 1938. I therefore place on record my appreciation of the courtesy which has been extended to me during my term of office. I also wish to acknowledge the help and loyal co-operation received from the Sanitary Inspector, in carrying out my Public Health duties.

I am,

Yours obediently,

P. T. MACDONALD,

Medical Officer of Health.

June, 1938.

ANNUAL REPORT

*Of the Sanitary Inspector on the Sanitary Circumstances
of the Kingswood Urban Area for 1937.*

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Kingswood Urban District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my fifth Annual Report on the administration of the Sanitary Services and the carrying out of certain other duties in this Area during the year 1937.

(a) Water Supply.

Two samples of water from private shallow wells were taken during the year, and the results of bacteriological and chemical examination showed the water to be unfit for human consumption. In both cases the supplies served properties included in Clearance Areas on which Orders were subsequently made and confirmed. The occupiers were advised to sterilise the water pending arrangements for their removal to Council houses. A sample of water from an underground cistern, which was being used for cleansing dairy utensils, was also taken and found on examination to be polluted. Its use was discontinued.

The West Gloucestershire Water Company have supplied the following Analyst's Certificate in respect of the Public Supply.

The Counties Public Health Laboratories,
91, Queen Victoria Street,
London, E.C.4.

Ref. : L. 4124A.

Analysis of a sample of Water received on January 4th, 1938 from West Gloucestershire Water Co. labelled Well Pump Delivery, Shipton Moyne.

Taken by—C. W. Hooper. *Dated* 3/1/38. 11 a.m.

Appearance—Faint opalescence, settling to slight brown film, deposit of mineral particles.

Colour—normal.

Odour—nil.

Total Alkalinity—As CaCO_3 : 25.0.

Free Carbonic Acid—1.1 *Reaction* pH — — — Neutral 7.6.

Results expressed in parts per 100,000.

Ca.	Mg.	Na.	K.	CO ₂	SO ₄	Cl.	NO ₂	SiO ₂	Probable Combinations	
7.9	0.25			15.0	5.2	5.0		1.25		
7.9	...	...	...	11.85	...	...	...	...	Calcium Carbonate	19.75
...	0.25	...	...	0.62	...	...	...	...	Magnesium ..	0.87
...	...	1.95	...	2.53	...	...	...	...	Sodium Carbonate	4.48
...	...	2.5	...	...	5.2	...	...	...	Sodium Sulphate	7.70
...	...	3.25	...	...	...	5.0	...	...	Sodium Chloride	8.25
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Silica	1.25
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Difference	0.70
Total solid constituents dried at 180°C. ...										43.00

Hardness—Permanent 0.0. Temporary 21.0. Total 21.0.

Ammonical Nitrogen 0.0246

Albuminoid Nitrogen 0.0000

Free Ammonia 0.0300

Albuminoid Ammonia 0.0000

Oxygen Absorbed in 4 hours at 80°F. ... 0.005

Nitrites absent

Metals ... Iron 0.020. In solution absent.

Note.—To convert the above parts per 100,000 into grains per gallon multiply by .7

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS.

No. of Colonies per c.c. :—

On Agar in 3 days at 20°C. 2

On Agar at 37°C. in 1 day 0

2 days 2

Bacillus Coli Absent in 100 c.c.

Bacillus Welchii Absent in 100 c.c.

(B. Enteritidis Sporogenes).

(Signed) E. V. SUCKLING,

For Drs. Beale and Suckling.

10th January, 1938.

Ref. : L. 4124A.

REPORT ON ANALYSIS OF A SAMPLE OF WATER

SUBMITTED BY

WEST GLOUCESTERSHIRE WATER COMPANY.

Labelled : Shipton Moyne.

This sample contains a faint opalescence due to the presence of finely divided mineral matter in suspension which settles on standing to form a slight brown coloured deposit. The water contains manganese and only a minute trace of iron.

It is neutral in reaction, contains no excess of saline or mineral matter in solution, and is of good organic quality showing no evidence of pollution from the standpoint of chemical analysis.

The saline constituents consist of calcium bicarbonate with smaller traces of bicarbonate, sulphate and chloride of sodium. The water is, therefore, hard in character, though not to an excessive degree, and the hardness is 'temporary,' i.e., it will deposit on boiling to form scale or fur.

The sample collected from the force Pump Delivery proves to be of the highest standard of bacterial purity. We regard the water as pure and wholesome suitable for the purposes of public supply.

(Signed) E. SUCKLING

(For Drs. Beale and Suckling).

(b) Drainage and Sewerage.

Early in the year the laying of the Trunk Sewer for the Kingswood and Warmley Joint Sewerage Scheme, which comprises 28,687 ft. of 18 in. to 30 in. steel and concrete pipe, and which was carried out by contract, was completed. The total cost of this sewer was approximately £47,000. The effluent from the Disposal Works at Warmley, formerly discharging into Warmley Brook, now enters this pipe and reaches the River Avon at Conham.

Work on the New Disposal Works at Conham, which was commenced in 1936, is now nearing completion. Practically the whole of the constructional work has been completed and the Contractors are now engaged in placing the remainder of the media in the Filter Beds. These new Works, estimated to cost £52,000 (including land) which will displace the existing Sewage Works at Warmley and Conham, should be in operation in the near future.

Sewer extensions were carried out during the year in various parts of the District as follows :—

<i>District.</i>	<i>Length.</i>	<i>Cost</i>
Station Road ...	120 yards ...	£90
Gilbert Road ...	108 yards ...	£60
Champion Lane ...	70 yards ...	£40
Britannia Road ...	35 yards ...	£30
<hr/>		<hr/>
333 yards		£220
<hr/>		<hr/>

Extensions at Station Road and Champion Lane were carried out primarily to meet the needs of building development in the Area, thus avoiding the use of cesspools for house drainage.

The Gilbert Road extension was made in an effort to counteract the overcharging of the sewers at this point during heavy rainstorms, with consequent flooding of neighbouring houses. The extension on the Kingswood boundary at Britannia Road (connected to Bristol Corporation's sewer by arrangement) was also put in to prevent flooding of houses in Britannia Road.

The heavy rainstorm which occurred on the 15th July, 1937 (St. Swithin's day !) gave rise to widespread complaints of flooding. I made an inspection of the Area during the height of the storm and saw the serious damage caused to dozens of private dwellings. The rainfall was exceptionally heavy and figures given by the West Gloucestershire Water Company are interesting if only to indicate the tremendous amount of rain which fell. Between 10.10 a.m. and 10.40 a.m. nearly an inch of rain was recorded, equivalent to nearly 101 tons or 22,600 gallons per acre. The total rainfall for the day was 3 inches, and was the heaviest recorded for over 30 years.

240 new houses were connected to the sewers. Twenty-one dwellings at which no drainage was provided were connected to the Council's sewers, and proper sinks, etc. furnished for removal of waste water.

(c) **Closet Accommodation.**

Some further progress was made during the year in securing improvements to sanitary accommodation. Thirteen privies or pail closets were abolished. Fifteen new W.C.s with flushing apparatus were provided and twenty defective W.C.s were modernised, insanitary hopper closets being abolished and pedestal W.C.s. with flushing apparatus installed.

(d) **Public Cleansing.**

A weekly service of refuse collection is given to nearly all parts of the District, one covered motor lorry with a team of three workmen being engaged full time on collection work. Refuse is disposed of by tipping. The total cost of refuse collection and disposal during the year was £814.

The Public Health Act, 1936, which came into operation on the 1st October, 1937, empowers the Local Authority to require provision of regulation dustbins for storage of house refuse. I have drawn attention in previous Annual Reports to the unsightly and insanitary receptacles in use in the District, and it is hoped that the new Law will enable this unsatisfactory position to be remedied.

(e) **Sanitary Inspections.**

Two colonies of caravans were found on sites in the District. One was dealt with early in the year under the nuisance clause of the Public Health Act, 1875, and moved from the site when legal proceedings were pending. In the other case action was taken under section 269 of the Public Health Act 1936, which enables Local Authorities to deal more effectively with camping sites. Proceedings against the occupiers were authorised in December but were not completed by the end of the year.

One owner was prosecuted for failing to abate a nuisance arising from certain defects existing at a dwelling house. An order was made for abatement within three months.

The following is a summary of visits (primary and revisits) made to various premises during the year :—

Premises under Public Health Acts (except Council Houses)	406
Complaints Investigated	114
Premises under Housing Acts (except Overcrowding)	546
Premises re Overcrowding	72
Council Houses visited	646
Van dwellings	37
Drainage Visits	202
Dairies	18
Cowsheds	14
Bakehouses	6
General Food Premises	15
Slaughterhouses (meat inspection)	1,244
Factories and Workshops	44
Schools	19
Re Infectious Diseases	133
Fumigations after Infectious Disease	104
Fumigations for vermin	11
Number of Milk samples taken	48
Number of Water Samples taken	4
Shops Act Visits	2
Petroleum Act Visits	9
Smoke Observations	25
Miscellaneous	274
Interviews on District	215

NO. OF NOTICES SERVED.				DEFECTIVE CONDITIONS.		
Informal		Formal		Nature of Defect.	Remedied by Informal action.	Remedied by Statutory action.
Served	Complied	Served	Complied			
22	11	3	...	Defective Premises ...	11	...
16	14	8	5	W.C.s : Defective or insufficient New Provided ...	14	6
2	2	7	7	Urinals	5	10
2	2	...	...	Sinks : Absence of ...	2	...
4	9	9	9	Defective	9	9
1	1	...	...	Privies : Defective (abolished)	1	...
5	8	2	4	*Drainage : Chokages	8	4
18	18	...	...	Defective	18	...
3	3	...	...	Absence of	3	...
5	5	12	14	Cesspools :— Abolished	12	14
4	12	...	...	Water : Absence	12	...
1	...	1	...	Indoor supplies	...	...
...	5	2	2	Ashes accommodation	5	2
2	...	...	...	Overcrowding (Housing)	...	...
1	...	1	1	Smoke Nuisance	...	...
5	6	...	...	Accumulations	6	...
8	7	...	...	Nuisance from Swine	7	...
1	1	...	...	Rat infestation	1	...
4	4	...	...	Verminous dwellings	4	...
8	8	...	...	Dirty premises	8	...
1	1	...	...	Van dwelling	1	...
1	1	...	...	Slaughterhouse defects	1	...
1	1	...	...	Food preparing room defective	1	...
116	120	44	42		130	46

* N.B.—Drain Rods were loaned on 60 occasions for clearing obstructions and no notices were served.

(f) Smoke Abatement.

Twenty-five observations of factory and brickworks chimneys were made during the year, and in several instances informal notices were served. On the whole, manufacturers appeared willing to adopt suggestions put forward for remedying smoke nuisances, and in one case of alleged smut nuisance from an oil-fired plant (referred to in my report for 1936), considerable expense was incurred in raising boiler chimneys, &c., in order to overcome the nuisance. Complaints arising from the burning of scrap leather were investigated and appropriate action taken. Whenever detected, this objectionable practice is discouraged, but in the absence of any statutory prohibition its control is a matter of some difficulty. Very often the volume of smoke emitted from chimneys is not of sufficient density to fall within the provisions of the Public Health Act, but nevertheless, the smell is most obnoxious.

I wish to place on record my appreciation of the help and advice given to me by Dr. A. C. Monkhouse, B.Sc., F.I.C., H.M. Inspector under the Alkali &c. Works Regulation Act, in dealing with certain technical matters arising in connection with smoke abatement. Dr. Monkhouse visited Kingswood on several occasions.

(g) Swimming Bath and Pool.

One privately owned open air swimming pool is in use during the summer months. Regular inspections were made, and suggestions put forward for securing better cleanliness were carried out. The water used in the Bath is drawn from "Warmley Level" which, I am informed, drains part of the old mine workings in the Kingswood Area.

Bacteriological and Chemical examination of the water in the pool was carried out, and the Analyst reported as follows :—

" The analysis shows that this water in its present condition is satisfactory for a swimming bath water. It shows very little body or urine pollution. There is no evidence of chlorination, and I should recommend that if gaseous administration of chlorine is out of the question, that chlorination should be done by means of "Chloros"—diluted, and sprayed over the water by means of a watering can after the bath is closed for the night. It is a very hard water.

(Signed) ROWLAND H. ELLIS."

Following receipt of this Report, the Management were written to and requested to take steps to ensure that proper chlorination of the water was carried out in future.

(h) Eradication of Bed Bugs.

The following information is included in compliance with the request of the Ministry of Health.

(a) Number of Council houses infested	1
,, Council houses disinfested	1
(b) Number of privately-owned dwellings infested ...	6
,, privately-owned dwellings disinfested ...	6

In carrying out work of disinfection, the walls are stripped, skirtings, picture rails, architraves, etc., removed and treated with a blow lamp and sprayed with vermicide. All crevices are sealed with the blow-lamp and sprayed. A proprietary fumigating agent is then burned in each room and the premises sealed up. If live vermin are seen after first treatment, the fumigation is repeated. Where infestation is not heavy and of recent origin, spraying only has been carried out with quite effective results. It is relevant to mention here that with one exception, the privately-owned houses found to be infested were newly-erected, and in all cases they had been occupied by persons who had migrated into the District.

It was found necessary only in two instances to deal with the belongings of tenants being re-housed from unfit dwellings. Furniture, etc., was treated with vermicide and bedding thoroughly washed in a disinfectant solution.

(i) Schools.

Visits of inspection have been made to the Schools in the area during the year, and any defects found have been reported upon and remedied.

(j) Factories, Workshops, etc.

Inspections have been made under the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901, as follows :—

1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Premises.	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
Factories (Including factory laundries) ...	40	19	...
Workshops (Including Workshop laundries)	4	1	...
Workplaces (Other than outworkers) ...	...	...	...
	44	20	...

2.—*Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.*

Particulars.	Number of defects			Prosecutions
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :</i>				
Want of cleanliness	6	6	...	...
Want of ventilation ... ..	...	...	...	...
Overcrowding ... ..	...	...	...	...
Want of drainage of floors ... ..	...	...	...	...
Other nuisances	10	10	...	...
<i>Sanitary Accommodation :</i>				
Insufficient ... ..	...	...	...	...
Unsuitable or defective	37	25	...	...
Not separate for sexes ... ..	...	...	...	...
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshops Act</i>	Nil detected			
TOTAL	53	41	...	...

A number of inspections were made to Factories following receipt of notices from H.M. Inspector, and specific matters complained of were dealt with. During the year considerable improvement was made in the sanitary accommodation at a large Engineering Works in the District, 18 trough water closets being abolished and a new block of flushing W.C.s and urinals erected.

(h) Housing.

1.—*Slum Clearance.* Early in the year the Housing Committee decided to accelerate and complete action under the Five-year Programme (decided upon in 1933), and gave instructions to this effect. Accordingly, in March, 1938, representations and reports were made to the Committee concerning 32 unfit houses in Clearance Areas and 11 individual unfit dwellings. Ten Areas were declared and the Orders made thereon on the 5th May, 1937. Four Orders (involving 12 houses) were not opposed and six were objected to. Following a Public Inquiry held in July, all the Orders were confirmed without modification on the 21st October, 1937. During the year 36 individual unfit dwellings (including 11 referred to above) were given formal consideration by the Housing Committee. Twenty-eight Demolition Orders were made, one basement dwelling was closed, two Undertakings to make fit were offered and accepted and in five cases action was deferred.

In September, the Housing Committee informally considered the preparation of a supplementary programme for dealing with

unfit property in the District and some 70 dwellings were reported upon. Formal action in respect of these was under consideration at the end of the year.

Fourteen dwellings—5 in Clearance Areas and 9 individually unfit houses—were demolished during the year. This figure shows substantially slower progress than that made in 1936 when 32 were demolished, and is mainly accounted for by the fact that re-housing accommodation for displaced persons was not available until November and December.

2.—*Re-housing.* Fourteen houses—6 two-bedroom type and 8 three-bedroom type—were erected on land acquired by the Council in Court Road, Mount Hill, and were completed and occupied by the end of the year.

In March, 1937, a parcel of land at Woodstock, nearly 17 acres in extent, was purchased for housing purposes. A lay-out for 52 houses was prepared and approved (12 four-bedroom type, 22 three-bedroom type and 18 two-bedroom type); Contracts for erection of houses were accepted and erection commenced in September. This site is well situated and will become the largest housing estate under the control of the Council.

3.—*Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year :—*

<i>i. (a)</i>		Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	189
<i>(b)</i>		Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	820
<i>ii. (a)</i>		Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925	56
<i>(b)</i>		Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	546
<i>iii.</i>		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	48
<i>iv.</i>		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	91

4.—*Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices :—*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	106
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5.—*Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—*

(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936—

i.	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	6
ii.	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
	(a) By Owners	6
	(b) By local authority in default of owners	0

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

i.	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	43
ii.	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal services :—	
	(a) By Owners	45
	(b) By local authority in default of owners	2

(c) Proceedings under section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

i.	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...	28
ii.	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ...	9
iii.	Number of dwelling houses made fit on Undertakings	2

(d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

i.	Number of separate tenements or under-ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	1
ii.	Number of separate tenements or under-ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	0

6.—*Housing Act, 1936. Part IV. Overcrowding.*

(a)	i.	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	... ..	45
	ii.	Number of families dwelling therein	... ..	51
	iii.	Number of persons dwelling therein	... ..	320
			(units	289)
(b)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	... ..	1
(c)	i.	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	... ..	29
	ii.	Number of persons concerned in such cases	... ..	203
			(units	176)

The Minister of Health, by an Order made on the 26th June, 1936, fixed the 1st January, 1937, as the "Appointed Day" under the Housing Act, for offences in relation to Overcrowding in this Area. Any overcrowding *newly created* after this date constitutes an offence. During the year one such case was discovered, caused by a person sub-letting. Statutory notices were served on owner and occupier and were complied with, the sub-tenant vacating the premises.

At the end of the year a check survey was taken of the 74 cases of overcrowding known to exist on the 31st December, 1936. It was revealed that 29 cases had been relieved, 6 by being re-housed in Council houses and 23 either by moving on their own account, or the number in family being reduced to within the "permitted number."

(m) Council Houses.

The work of inspection and supervision of the 248 houses owned by the Council has been well maintained during the year, the amount of work entailed being considerable. All decorations, repairs, etc., are carried out by the Maintenance Staff under the control of a Foreman-Supervisor, who acts under the direction of the Sanitary Inspector. 47 geysers or geyser flues found to be defective or ineffective were reconstructed and re-fitted with baffles and terminals discharging directly to the external air, the work being done by the Bristol Gas Company.

The Housing Committee also gave instructions for re-construction of solid wooden floors in certain houses at the Hanham Housing Site which have proved to be a recurrent source of trouble. Three such floors were reconstructed by taking out all old work, excavating to 18 inches, concreting over site and building sleeper walls, inserting damp proof courses and providing new floors carried on joists, with adequate under-floor ventilation. One house at Hanham was

found to be so badly affected with dry rot fungus (*Merulius Lacrymans*), that it was necessary to remove all downstairs wood-work (floors, skirtings, door linings, etc.), staircase and large areas of plaster in order to stop its progress. All brick surfaces and interstices were sterilised with solutions of corrosive sublimate and creosote and afterwards seared with a blow-lamp. Before reinstatement, all timber was treated with preservative.

The cost of Housing Repairs during the year was £1,021.

(n) **Inspection and Supervision of Food.**

(1). *Milk Supply*.—Routine inspections of cowsheds and dairies under the Milk & Dairies Order, 1926, were carried out during the year. Forty-eight samples of milk were taken for bacteriological examination and the results are given in the tabulated statement which follows. Thirty-three samples showed bacterial counts of under 200,000 per m.l. and 34 showed *B.Coli* absent in 1/100th m.l. Whenever unsatisfactory results are received, the vendor is advised and the source of trouble eliminated.

A milk vendor was suspected of filling milk into bottles in the public street, and following a warning against the practice, no repetition of the offence was detected.

Three persons were registered as retail purveyors of milk during the year. Supplementary licences for the sale of graded milks were issued as follows :—

Grade A (T.T.)	...	...	...	1
Grade A	...	...	...	1
Pasteurised	...	...	...	3

Analysis of Examinations of Milk, 1937.

Description	No. of samples taken	Organisms per m.l.					Bacillus Coli					Keeping Quality in days				
							Absent	Present in			1	1-2	2-3	over 3		
		Under 30,000	30,000 to 100,000	100,000 to 200,000	200,000 to million	million and over		1m.l.	1/10th ¹ m.l.	1/100 m.l.					1/1000 m.l.	
Loose untreated milk ...	31	9	8	2	8	4	6	4	10	5	6	...	9	20	2	
Pasteurised ...	9	7	1	1	...	...	4	1	2	1	1	...	...	1	4
Accredited milk	5	1	1	...	3	...	1	...	2	1	1	...	2	2	1	
Tuberculin Tested ...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Sterilized ...	2	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1
TOTALS	48	20	10	3	11	4	12	6	14	7	9	...	13	27	8	

(2). *Inspection of Meat and other foods.*—This important work has been carried on during the year and every effort made to examine as many animals as possible. The figures in the following tables indicate the number of inspections and amount of diseased or unsound meat voluntarily surrendered. It was not found necessary at any time to seize any diseased meat.

All rejected meat and offal is collected and disposed of by Trade Waste Manufacturers, except in cases where the quantity does not justify cost of transport. In such cases, disposal is secured by burning or burying.

Several contraventions of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations were dealt with by cautioning the offenders.

On the 16th August, 1937, a complaint was received from a Metropolitan Borough concerning a certain foodstuff manufactured in Kingswood which was alleged to be impregnated with glass chippings. A communication was also received from the Ministry of Health on the matter. Investigations were at once made and reported upon to the Council, and a copy of the Report was sent to the Ministry of Health. From my enquiries I was satisfied that the accidental introduction of glass chippings into the product during manufacture was highly improbable. No subsequent complaint was received from other sources, and the affected material was dealt with in London.

No. of visits to Slaughterhouses ... 1,244

Animals inspected :—

Beasts	...	...	...	1,289
Sheep	...	...	...	2,391
Pigs	...	...	...	1,922
Calves	...	...	...	69

————— 5,671

No. of visits to other food premises 15

Condemnations, 1937.

Description.	Beasts	Sheep	Pigs	Calves	Total
Carcases and Organs ...	7	1	11	1	20
Part Carcases ...	1	...	...	...	1
Heads, including tongues	63	...	77	...	140
Lungs ...	54	...	116	...	170
Hearts ...	2	...	14	...	16
Livers ...	92	14	18	...	124
Udders ...	3	...	...	...	3
Plucks ...	...	...	29	...	29
Mesenteries ...	2	...	34	...	45
Kidney ...	1	...	...	...	1
Sundry Offal ...	...	...	5	...	5
Stomach ...	1	...	...	...	1

Causes of Condemnations and Weights.

Disease or Condition.	Beasts	Sheep	Pigs	Calves	Total
Tuberculosis—generalised and localised	8,221	...	1,358	...	9,579
Distomatosis	1,040	39	...	...	1,079
Cirrhosis	144	...	58	...	202
Immaturity ... ..	...	...	...	154	154
Pyæmia ... ..	...	...	139	...	139
Laceration and Injury ...	...	50	80	...	130
Pneumonia ... ..	...	...	117	...	117
Septic Pericarditis and Peritonitis ... ..	...	...	105	...	105
Nephritis	4	...	90	...	94
Swine Erysipelas ... ..	...	...	90	...	90
Fevered ... ..	...	...	50	...	50
Actinomycosis	60	...	...	...	60
Adhesions ... ..	...	...	22	...	22
Consolidation ... ..	...	...	21	...	21
Melanosis	20	...	...	...	20
Angiomatosis	16	...	...	...	16
Garget	8	...	...	...	8
Hydatid Cysts ... ..	...	...	6	...	6
Mastitis	5	...	...	...	5
	9,518	89	2,136	154	11,897

(o) Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

Thirty-three licences to slaughter animals were issued to slaughtermen during the year and it was not found necessary to refuse any licence nor to suspend any of the licences issued. The requirements of the Act with regard to stunning of animals is now generally observed. There are 11 captive-bolt instruments, a loose bullet instrument, 2 electro-lethalers and one spring loaded gun in use in the District.

(p) Mortuary and Conveniences.

The mortuary was in use on nine occasions during the year, a fee of one guinea being paid for each case. Cases admitted were :

Date	Sex	Age	Address	Post-mortem held	Cause of death
17th Feb.	F.	73 yrs.	Hanham	Yes	Shock and multiple injuries from fall. Heart attack.
17th Mar.	F.	66 yrs.	Syston Common Warmley	Yes	Cardiac degeneration.
21st Apr.	F.	77 yrs	Kingswood	Yes	Cardiac Failure. Senility.
10th Aug.	M.	55 yrs.	Hanham	Yes	Head wounds caused by gunshot. Suicide.
23rd Sept.	M.	57 yrs.	St. Philips	Yes	Drowning. Suicide.
28th Oct.	F.	84 yrs.	Kingswood	Yes	Pulmonary Embolism
2nd Nov.	M.	5 yrs.	Hanham	No	Fractured base of skull. Accidental death.
5th Nov.	F.	5 yrs.	Kingswood	Yes	Meningitis
10th Nov.	F.	16 mths	Kingswood	Yes	Pneumonia

The sum of £51 11s. 1d. was collected from the Council's Public Conveniences.

(q) Petroleum (Consolidation) Act, 1928.

Thirty-four Licences to keep Petroleum Spirit or mixtures of Petroleum were issued, and one licence was transferred, the fees received totalling £17 10s. 0d. No contraventions of the Act were detected during the year. With each licence is issued a display notice setting out the principal requirements of the Act.

(r) General Remarks.

It has been my endeavour throughout the year to maintain steady progress in securing sanitary improvements in the District, and my time has been fully occupied in dealing with the matters enumerated in the Report. I have found it impossible adequately to deal with all items which should receive attention, and no one is more conscious of these shortcomings than myself.

In carrying out duties, the exigencies of which demand almost daily attention, other duties—less spectacular perhaps, but equally important—are apt to be overlooked, and one finds little or no time to deal with them. The growth of the District and the increased duties which are imposed on the Local Authority by new legislation are further factors to be taken into consideration.

I am, yours obediently,

GEO. E. CURTIS,

June, 1938.

Sanitary Inspector.

